



# AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 14

WASHINGTON, D. C.

DECEMBER 12, 1955

## Officials Debate Our Aid Program

How Should U. S. React to the Russian Actions in Asia and Middle East?

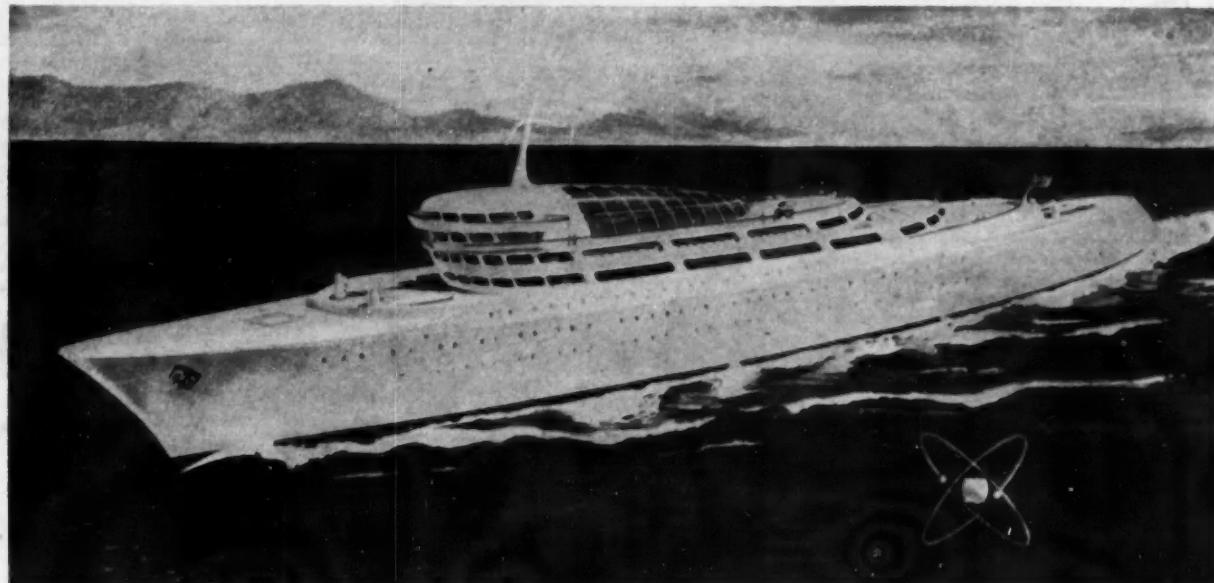
THE Soviet Union is making a big drive to increase its influence in the Middle East and southern Asia. In recent weeks, Russia has offered help to many of the nations extending from the Mediterranean Sea to the Pacific Ocean. Most of these countries have been following what they consider to be a neutral policy, siding neither with the communist lands nor the western nations.

Previously Russia's aid had been almost entirely confined to communist lands such as Poland, Hungary, and Red China. Now the Soviet Union is trying to win over the neutral nations by helping them in various ways. The offers differ from country to country, but they include arms aid, financial assistance in building factories and dams, and the promise of increased trade.

The United States is helping many of these same lands. Whether we should step up our aid programs in view of Russia's new tactics is now the subject of a controversy among top U. S. officials.

**Vital Region.** The area where the Soviet Union is launching its economic offensive stretches for some 7,000 miles from Egypt to Indonesia. Many of the region's 20 or so nations have only recently emerged from the control of European powers. Approximately one third of the world's people live in this area.

By western standards, these lands  
(Continued on page 2)



PEACETIME SHIP OF THE FUTURE? This is an artist's version of an atom-powered ship that would carry 500 passengers. Bethlehem Steel Company engineers, who worked out the plans, say that such a ship can be built.

## Atom's Peacetime Jobs Increase

Countless Uses Develop; Prospect of Abundant Power from Nuclear Energy Stirs Imaginations of People in Every Section of the World

THE atom can destroy a city—or provide it with light, heat, and power. The atom can snuff out human lives—or save them. The atom can ruin civilization as we know it today—or can be the means through which mankind achieves greater material abundance than ever before.

The Japanese remember how their cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were destroyed by atomic bombs during World War II. But now Japan looks toward the time when nuclear power plants will be helping to light her buildings and run her factories.

Since the world still lives in fear of war, our nation still considers it essen-

tial to devote much effort to the production of atomic and hydrogen weapons. At the same time, ever-increasing attention is being given—in America and abroad—to the non-military uses of nuclear energy.

Mankind is harnessing the atom to provide new sources of power, new tools for science and industry, new methods of fighting disease. Two years ago, President Eisenhower called for a broad program of international cooperation along such lines. He thought this cooperation might help create a spirit of trust, and thus bring the world closer to the establishment of genuine and lasting peace.

The United Nations and many individual countries have taken steps to carry out the President's suggestion. These steps definitely are helping to speed up development of the atom's peacetime uses, but it remains to be seen how much they will contribute toward a general reduction of international suspicion and bad feeling.

Much publicity has been given to the huge International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which the UN sponsored at Geneva, Switzerland, last August. Scientists from 72 nations attended this conference, to exchange ideas about harnessing the atom.

Many of the participating countries, including America and Russia, set up elaborate exhibits at Geneva. Numerous pieces of equipment used in our nation's atomic laboratories were on display. Visitors could examine big chunks of uranium—the dark, heavy metal which provides atomic fuel. They could see graphic illustrations of how atomic science helps fight cancer and other diseases.

But the subject which seemed to attract the most attention—in exhibit halls and conference rooms alike—was *electric power from the atom*. People all over the world are vitally interested in this topic.

As nations become more and more industrialized, their demand for power grows rapidly. To obtain this power, mankind burns ever-increasing quantities of the ordinary fuels—coal, oil, and gas. It is hard to say how long the world's supply of such fuels will last. Experts sharply disagree over this question. Even today, however, many parts of the globe lack sufficient coal and petroleum to take care of their power needs.

But now a new source of energy  
(Continued on page 6)

## HERE AND ABROAD - - - PEOPLE, PLACES, AND EVENTS

### ANCHORS AWAY

Japan's shipbuilding industry, which was almost completely destroyed during World War II, is now booming. The shipyards have enough future orders, mostly from foreign nations, to keep them busy for 2 years. This has boosted Japan to third place—behind the United Kingdom and West Germany—in construction of vessels for export. Meanwhile, Japan's own merchant marine has risen to seventh largest in the world.

### PEACEFUL ANTARCTICA?

Admiral Richard E. Byrd, just before departing to lead an expedition to the South Pole, remarked that no woman had ever been on the vast Antarctic continent. Then he quipped: It's very peaceful down there.

After he made this statement, it wasn't so peaceful for Byrd up here. The women, as might be expected, rushed to their own defense. First, they quickly produced evidence to show

that Mrs. Edith Ronne, of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Harry Darlington, of Marshall, Virginia, had been on an exploration to the South Pole. In addition, the women wrung a confession from the Admiral that it was lonely in the Antarctic without the fair sex.

### COUNTING HEADS

People in Turkey stayed home to be counted a short time ago. Not a person left home except the census-takers, plus a few officials and doctors with special passes. When the previous census was taken in 1950, the population was 20.9 million. The latest count is expected to show a 2 million gain since then.

### EARLY DRUG STORES

Ancient inhabitants of the earth had "drug stores," recent findings indicate. Prescriptions for medicines written 4,000 years ago have been dug up in areas east of the Mediterranean Sea. The "doctors" used salt, bark, roots,

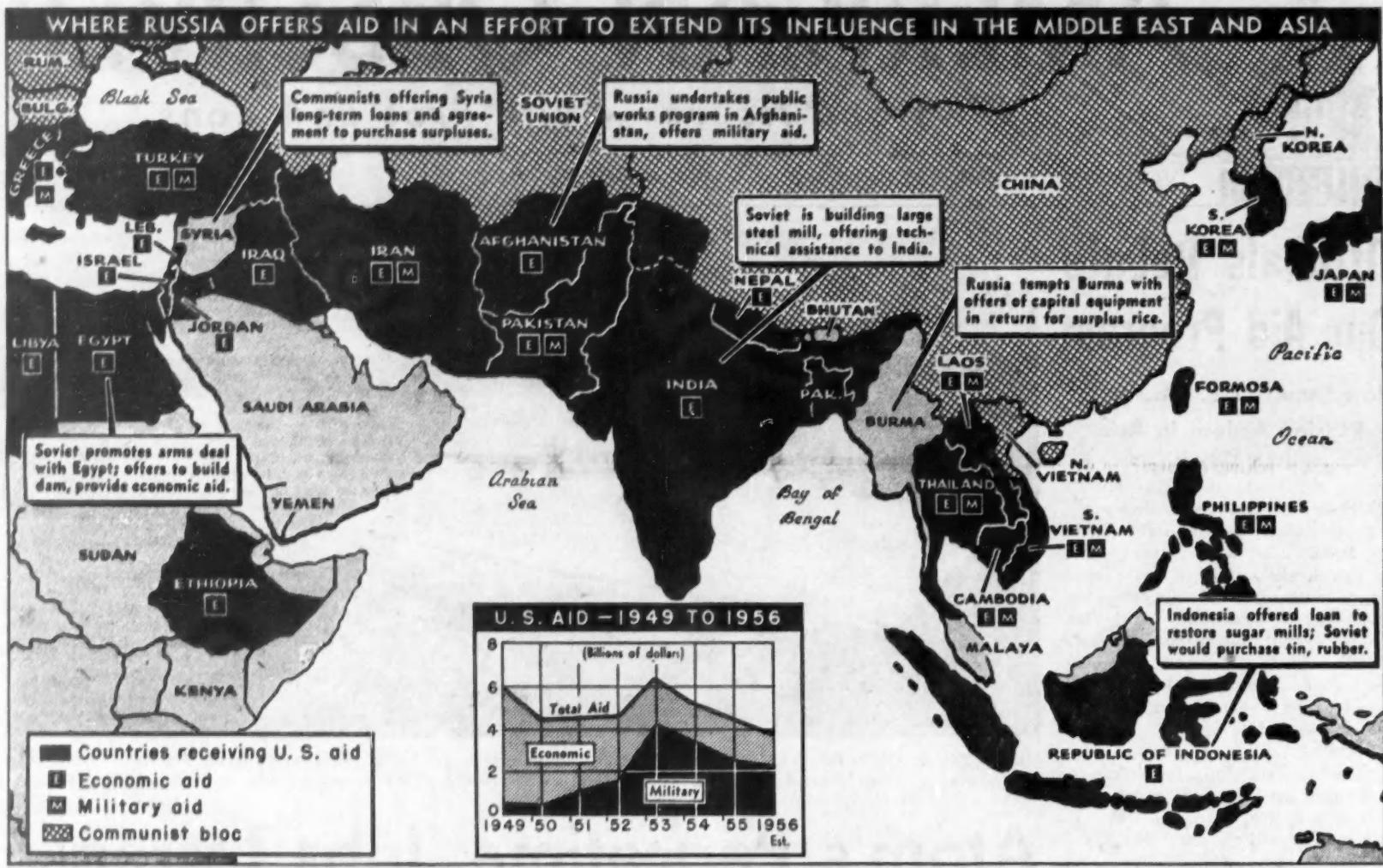
and turtle shells to cure their patients. For many centuries after that time, medical treatment was not much more scientific than it was then.

### PRICE OF PROGRESS

The famous gondolas of Venice are being motorized. Tourists in the Italian city next spring will find 30 of the new craft going up and down the city canals. The motor gondolas are expected to be more efficient, but the majority of Venetians don't want oar-driven gondolas to disappear entirely from the scene.

### MOON FOR SALE

You can buy a plot of land for only \$1 an acre from a man in New York. The only drawback is that the site is over 200,000 miles away—on the moon. More than 4,500 persons have each paid a dollar for a deed to an acre of the moon. It looks as though the moon really does have a balmy effect on some people.



WITH OFFERS OF AID, Russia is suddenly trying to win friendship of countries (shown in dark tone) which we have long been helping

## Our Aid Program

(Continued from page 1)

are poor, yet many of them have sizable, undeveloped resources. The Middle East, for example, is rich in oil, so essential today for both military and industrial power.

The Middle East also has great strategic importance. It is the land bridge connecting Europe, Asia, and Africa. Any power controlling this region would, if it were aggressively inclined, be in a good position to extend its control into southern Asia and Africa.

India, with 380 million people, is the key nation in southern Asia. Only one country—Red China—has a larger population. Like practically all other lands in this region, India is determined to raise living standards and make her own way as a free nation. She and most of her neighbors, however, need help in solving their problems.

**American Aid.** The United States has been assisting many of the lands in this vital area for several years. We are helping such countries as Iran and Pakistan build up their armed forces.

We are also extending economic aid in order to raise living standards. For example, in India we have assisted in setting up a "county agent" system to provide more food and better living conditions in thousands of villages. In several lands, U. S. experts are helping to deal with problems of sanitation, health, and education. We are cooperating in the construction of roads and dams in some countries to improve transportation, furnish needed irrigation, and provide electric power.

This year the economic aid we shall provide for the Middle East and southern Asia will amount to a bit less than \$550,000,000. (The graph above, it

should be noted, pertains to U. S. aid *all over the world*). Almost half of this year's economic outlay for the Middle East and southern Asia was set aside for Indochina where South Viet Nam, Laos, and Cambodia are threatened by communist penetration.

Elsewhere in this region, Iran is the principal receiver of economic aid from the United States. About \$86,000,000 was originally agreed upon for this nation. Egypt was scheduled to receive economic aid totaling about \$15,000,000 this year. India's economic aid was set at \$50,000,000.

Last month it was announced that the Eisenhower administration was thinking of holding back up to 20 per cent of funds appropriated for this year's economic assistance programs. John B. Hollister, director of the International Cooperation Administration, has said he hopes that next year's aid programs can be cut below this year's.

**Soviet Action.** Arms aid is one type of help which the communists are offering. Russia has approved the sale of weapons, including jet planes and submarines, to Egypt by Czechoslovakia, one of the Soviet satellites. Russia is also proposing some military equipment for Afghanistan. Negotiations are reportedly going on for a communist arms deal with Syria.

Economic aid is also being extended. Russia is offering to help Egypt build a huge dam on the upper Nile. The dam is a major project on which Egypt is basing her hopes to raise living standards. The Soviet Union is said to have offered to provide equipment worth \$200,000,000 for the gigantic construction project. Russia would accept Egyptian cotton and rice in payment.

In southern Asia, the Soviet Union has launched a big diplomatic offensive. Today—December 12—the Russian leaders, Bulganin and Khrushchev, are scheduled to wind up a tour

of India, Burma, and Afghanistan. Everywhere they've been during the present trip, the 2 Soviet officials have tried to promote closer ties between their country and the lands they visited.

The promise of Russian economic aid has been an effective weapon in India and Burma. A Soviet mission is now in India, making preparations for the construction of a steel mill which will cost about \$90,000,000. India will repay Russia for the mill over a long period of time. The Russians are also sending a team of oil experts to India to help develop the petroleum industry.

Burma is likely, too, to receive substantial economic aid from Russia. U Nu, Burma's leader, has been promised such assistance. In return for this help Russia will receive Burma's surplus rice.

**Bold New Program?** The communist campaign in the Middle East and in southern Asia has touched off a controversy within our government. Some U. S. officials think that our country must undertake a bold and dramatic program to offset the new Soviet drive. They say:

"The cold war is entering a new phase. For the first time Russia is using an ambitious aid program as a weapon in her fight for world leadership. We must meet this challenge as convincingly as we met the one which the Reds posed in Europe shortly after World War II."

"What is needed is a big economic development program for the Middle East and southern Asia. We must show the nations of these regions that they can advance faster to a better future with our guidance and assistance than they can by siding with the Reds."

"By cutting down on a few of our luxuries which we have in greater abundance than ever before, we could lay the foundation for a healthy econ-

omy and start living standards upward in a number of these countries. This financial aid, in the long run, might prove far more effective than relying on military pacts alone to curb the communists. Communism loses its appeal as living standards rise. Basic projects affecting health, education, farming, and industry need to be carried forward in underdeveloped lands by American money and technical experts."

"The aid programs in which we engage must be on a basis of equality and mutual respect. We must not attach conditions which give the appearance of renewing colonial ties. We must never forget that these are proud, young nations that want at all costs to avoid coming under foreign control."

"Certainly this is no time to start cutting aid in this part of the world. We cannot, of course, pour in unlimited funds, but with our national income and living standards at their highest levels in history, we can—and must—boost our aid substantially. If we don't move ahead with a large-scale program, the Reds' latest tactics may bring them new allies. If the Middle East and southern Asia fall under communist control, our troubles will be multiplied many times."

**Limited Aid?** Other U. S. officials think that our aid to the Middle East and south Asia must be strictly limited and should proceed generally along present lines. They argue:

"A big, new program is both unwise and unnecessary. It is unlikely that the Russians have any intention of starting a major assistance program. They have made various offers, to be sure, but they have not yet delivered on them. The Russian economy is not strong enough today to permit the Soviets to embark on an expensive program of aid for underdeveloped lands. They are making a big bluff—and we mustn't fall for it."

"Merely increasing aid is not going

to help our standing in these lands. In India, for example, Russia has promised to erect a steel mill worth about \$90,000,000. That is only a small amount as compared to the sum of more than \$450,000,000 in aid which we have granted India over the past 5 years. If the leaders and people of India don't realize by now who is helping them more, then no amount of further aid will convince them.

"Our government is making progress in cutting expenses, and a balanced budget may be possible before long. If we start pouring more funds into the Middle East and southern Asia, however, it will bring new taxes and cause inflation here at home. A big program would put a tremendous burden on us for years, and might wreck our economy—a development for which the Russians are no doubt hoping.

"Even if we make loans instead of outright gifts to these lands, it is practically impossible for us to do business on the terms that such countries as Egypt and Burma desire. They want to make payment in cotton, rice, wheat, and other products which we already possess in surplus quantity. Accepting these products would only aggravate our farm-surplus problem.

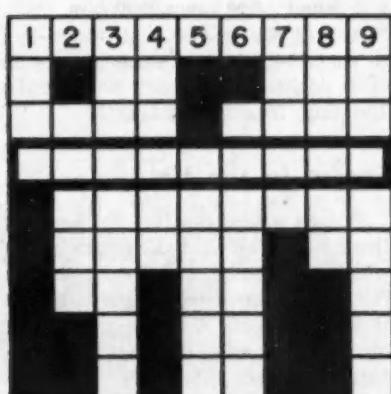
"Our best policy in holding back the Reds in this vital area is to keep ourselves militarily powerful and to rely on defense pacts which we and our European allies have with Pakistan, Iran, and certain other Middle Eastern lands. Our economic-aid programs are important, but they should be kept on a moderate scale so as not to weaken our own nation."

This whole question is certain to be heatedly debated when Congress meets next month.

#### CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

Fill in numbered vertical rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell the name of a man who has made the headlines for many years.

1. Initials for the federal agency headed by Lewis Strauss.
2. U. S. Air Force base in Greenland (see November 28th issue of this paper, if necessary).
3. World's first atomic submarine.
4. Big newsmaker during 1955 in Latin America.
5. One of the diseases now treated with atomic materials.
6. Capital of Arizona.
7. The U. S. allotted over half a billion dollars for 1955-1956 aid to southern and the Middle East.
8. Medically, the vaccine for \_\_\_\_\_ was outstanding news in 1955.
9. The Bill of Rights guarantees us freedom to choose our \_\_\_\_\_.



Last Week

HORIZONTAL: Melbourne. VERTICAL: 1. Meany; 2. Menzies; 3. Labor; 4. Canberra; 5. Gompers; 6. Reuther; 7. Pierre; 8. Sydney; 9. Lewis.



CHARLES COLLINGWOOD of CBS-TV's enjoyable and educational *Adventure* program shows two young guests an ancient fish-like reptile in a telecast from New York's American Museum of Natural History

## Radio-TV-Movies

**A**n unusual idea for a radio quiz program is featured on "College Quiz Bowl." Each week, students from 2 colleges compete, answering difficult questions. The winning team stays on the program until it is defeated by another college. This makes for lively competition in trying to answer the difficult questions, and fun for the listeners.

"College Quiz Bowl" is heard on Wednesday evenings over the NBC radio network. Tune in to this program and see how well you do.

★

"Adventure," a CBS television program, combines information and entertainment. Each Sunday afternoon the cameras give viewers a look at the world around us.

This season the program is devoted largely to four fields: (1) Our oceans and seas; (2) the settlement and de-

velopment of the West; (3) the search for oil; and (4) how the human body functions. The highlight of this last series will be a 40-foot robot built for the discussion of man's nervous system.

★

The Library of Congress in Washington, D. C., has a new collection of sound tapes to be used for reference by future generations. The tapes contain all the programs broadcast over a Washington radio station during the first week of November. They last more than 137 hours.

Citizens of tomorrow will find this tape collection a valuable record of American life in 1955. It includes news and sports broadcasts as well as programs of entertainment.

The Library of Congress also expects to obtain films of an entire week's television shows for the same purpose.

## Science in the News

**D**o you know what the letters IGY stand for? We shall be hearing a great deal about these initials in the next 3 years.

The 18 months from July 1, 1957, to December 31, 1958, have been designated as the International Geophysical Year. Scientists from more than 40 nations will cooperate in a search for knowledge about the earth and the sky.

About 5,000 experts will take part in this world-wide undertaking. They will spend about 200 million dollars. The information they assemble is expected to form the basis of scientific study for the next 100 years.

This joint effort to probe nature's secrets will, in a sense, turn the world into one huge laboratory. The experts involved in the giant task hope to solve such important problems as predicting the course of storms, measuring the rate at which the earth is warming, and learning how water shortages can be combated. What they discover should also lead to better weather forecasting, safer airplane navigation, and new advances in high altitude air travel.

The scientists from the nations participating in IGY will work together. For example, the United States, Russia, and several other countries will send expeditions to the Antarctic. Later they will exchange information.

A preliminary expedition from the United States has already begun the long trip to the South Pole. It will set up bases and make preparations for a larger group that will follow late next year.

The United States will undertake other tasks in connection with the International Geophysical Year. One of the major experiments will be the firing of a man-made satellite into the air. It will circle the earth for several days, measuring the density of the air, distances on the earth, and other information. This data will be communicated by radio to scientists on the ground.

The International Geophysical Year will be the greatest world-wide scientific undertaking ever conducted. Observers expect it to give us the answers to some of the questions about the earth and skies that man has sought for centuries.

## Readers Say—

Your recent article on France points up some of the difficulties that other countries have. Although the United States is peaceful and stable, other nations are not so fortunate.

JOAN CURLEY,  
Richmond, Virginia

(Charlotte Mastern suggested in the September 19 AMERICAN OBSERVER that the United Nations should have a world army. This letter is an answer to hers.)

I disagree with you that the UN should have a world army composed of troops from each member nation! Did such an army safeguard peace in Korea? What is your definition of peace, anyway?

NORMAN J. CASSIL,  
Altadena, California

Our high school has developed a system to interest students in science. A student who has taken chemistry, physics, or biology can become a laboratory assistant in the subject, helping the teacher in his or her work.

RAYMOND BOWSER,  
Alamogordo, New Mexico

This country has been decreasing its aid to foreign nations. I believe that we should give more help to our allies. Such assistance builds friendly relations among nations and helps to maintain peace.

MARY ROSE DREELIN,  
Richmond, Virginia

America should help her own people instead of sending so much money to other countries. Some people in this country need money that we are now sending overseas for food and medical care.

HELEN SHEEHAN,  
Knoxville, Tennessee

Actions speak louder than words! If the communists sincerely want peace, they should not send arms to the Middle East, where tension is increasing between the Arab countries and Israel.

JOAN ROACH,  
Cincinnati, Ohio

The expedition to the Antarctic is a very good idea. Studying weather conditions in that area will help scientists give people better warning of severe storms.

JAMES WALTERS,  
Sandyville, West Virginia

Not enough people stop to think about how our government is run. Our President has the hardest job in the country. Every citizen should do all he can to help him. This includes understanding how the government operates and voting in elections.

BARBARA BLACKBURN,  
Wichita, Kansas

#### AMERICAN OBSERVER

A text prepared for the study of current history in senior high schools, or the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades. Published by Civic Education Service, Inc., at 1733 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C., weekly throughout the year (except issues at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter, and three issues from the middle of August to the first week in September). Subscription price, \$1.20 a school year or 60 cents a semester in clubs of 5 or more; single subscription \$2.00 a calendar year. For a term shorter than a semester the price is 30 cents a week. Second-class mail privileges authorized at Washington, D. C., September 15, 1931.

Publications of  
**CIVIC EDUCATION SERVICE**  
American Observer      The Junior Review  
Weekly News Review      The Young Citizen  
Civic Leader

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# The Story of the Week

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

This is the last issue of the *American Observer* to appear before the Christmas holidays. The next issue of the paper will be dated January 2, 1956. We wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## Youngest Delegate

Jack Davis, 17-year-old senior at Eastern High School in Lansing, Michigan, was the youngest delegate to attend the President's White House Conference on Education. Appointed by Governor G. Mennen Williams as one of Michigan's 55 delegates to the conference, Jack said that he had learned much about the big problems now facing America's elementary and high schools.



Jack Davis

He thinks, however, that youth should have had a bigger voice in the 1,800-member conference. "I'm the only high school student here," he told the writer of this story. "It might be helpful to have the point of view of young people more widely represented in these meetings."

Jack participated in the various round-table discussions at the conference and helped to draw up the recommendations which will be studied by the President.

How does he feel about the conference? "It's really terrific!" was his comment. "I think that it will have a great influence on the people of the country. These sessions will surely help me as a member of our school debating team—this year we're arguing the question of federal aid to higher education."

We are proud of the fact that Jack and his classmates at Eastern High School use the *AMERICAN OBSERVER* in their study of current history.

## Prince to Visit

Prince Rainier III, ruler of tiny Monaco, is scheduled to arrive in the United States for a visit next Friday, December 16. He may stay here as long as 2 months.

Prince Rainier rules over a little pinpoint of land on the Mediterranean coast of France. The tiny area, which has self-rule but is supervised by



PRINCE RAINIER, ruler of Monaco

France, takes up only 375 acres of land and has 20,000 inhabitants. It is a world famous resort, and most of its income is supplied by tourists. Monaco also earns money by selling colorful postage stamps to collectors around the world.

The 32-year-old prince is a bachelor and the people of his country are eager for him to marry. They fear that if there is no heir to the throne, their country will become part of France after Rainier's rule ends.

## French Elections

Unless there are some last-minute changes in the political affairs of France, that country's voters will go to the polls to elect new legislators next month. About 10 days ago, the way was cleared for moving up the election date previously set for June to January. Faure made use of a special provision in the French constitution to dissolve the Assembly (parliament) and call for early elections.

Under this constitutional provision, which was last used by a French premier in 1877, new elections can be held ahead of schedule if 2 governments are voted out of office by a majority of all Assembly members within an 18-month period. Faure was voted down late last month on his proposal for early elections. Pierre Mendes-France was ousted as premier last February. Hence, Faure was able to call for new balloting even though he had been defeated on this issue in the Assembly.

Though he was voted out of office by the Assembly, Faure will continue to act as premier until new elections are held. When the results of the forthcoming balloting are in, a new government will be organized.

## METO Pact

Russia wants Iran to get out of the Middle East Treaty Organization (METO) which was established just a few weeks ago. Moscow has been warning Iran that there may be trouble if she doesn't quit the defense system. But Iran says that she won't be frightened into leaving METO by Soviet threats.

In addition to Iran, METO members include Iraq, Turkey, Pakistan, and Britain. Though we are not members of the defense system, we do plan to supply countries in METO with arms and other aid. Britain also plans to give its allies in the defense group some assistance including help in building atomic electric power plants.

Representatives of the 5 METO countries are now meeting in Baghdad, Iraq, to work out plans under which members of the group can best combine forces in case of trouble (this



HERBLOCK IN WASHINGTON POST AND TIMES HERALD

**ONLY AN APPLE FOR TEACHER?** This is the way one cartoonist feels about teachers' salaries. Naturally, he exaggerates the situation, but it is true that—despite the vital importance of their work—teachers are still among the lowest paid professionally trained people in the country.

alliance is also referred to as the Baghdad Pact). From a military standpoint, the strongest member of the defense team is Britain, although the British have only a few thousand troops stationed in the area.

The approximate armed strength of other METO countries are as follows: Turkey, 850,000 troops; Pakistan, 190,000; Iran, 125,000; and Iraq, 40,000.

## Soviet Salesman

Little by little, stories are coming out of India concerning the results of the recent visit to that country of Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Russia's communist party boss Nikita Khrushchev.

Most observers agree that the 2 Soviet leaders appear to have made some friends for Moscow in India during their visit there. Many Indians are particularly pleased over the promises made by the Soviet visitors that Russia is willing to help India build steel and other plants.

Nevertheless, a number of Indians have been critical of the Soviet visit. Some leading newspapers of India, for instance, criticized the Reds for using their supposedly "goodwill" tour as a sounding board to attack the United States and other western nations. Khrushchev's announcement that Russia exploded a hydrogen bomb also caused certain Indian leaders to question Red claims of wanting peace.

Moreover, there have been doubts raised in India with respect to the Red promises of aid to their country. One prominent Indian editorial writer told his readers that Khrushchev's promise

to help India has the ring of insincerity one finds in the noisy selling campaign of a bazaar salesman.

## Food for 8 Million

The CARE Food Crusade is under way. During the winter months, this agency hopes to assist in the feeding of 8,000,000 needy people in Europe, Asia, and Africa.

In connection with this program, CARE is receiving free, from the federal government, surplus quantities of butter, butter oil, milk powder, and cheese. However, money is needed for packaging and distribution.

One dollar will pay for the costs involved in sending a 20-pound food package overseas. Each package sent abroad will carry the name and address of the donor so that the receiver will know who has aided him.

Any of our readers who would like to contribute to this cause may send their donations to CARE, 309 La Salle Building, Washington 6, D. C.

## France in the UN

French representatives are back on their jobs in all United Nations offices which they had vacated early in the fall. The French once again took over their place in the UN General Assembly 2 weeks ago, and they have returned to other UN offices since then.

France came back to the UN after that body decided to drop the issue of Algeria's future from its list of topics to be discussed during the current session. Because France considers Algeria an actual part of her



DRAWN FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

MONACO, a tiny European land

country and not a subject for international debate, she previously withdrew from most UN agencies when that problem was placed on the global body's agenda.

## Highlights of 1955

**Western-Soviet relations.** A meeting in Geneva of American, British, French, and Russian heads of state last July ended on a friendly note. But when foreign affairs chiefs of the 4 nations met in the Swiss city this fall, no agreements on Soviet-western differences could be reached.

However, the Reds did agree to a peace treaty for Austria last spring, and they relaxed their barriers against western visitors to Russia.

**Russian leaders.** Premier Georgi Malenkov was forced to resign last February, though he continued as an official of the Moscow government. Nikolai Bulganin became premier. He and Russia's communist party boss Nikita Khrushchev appear to be the top leaders of the Soviet Union.

**Middle East.** Throughout much of 1955, there was scattered fighting between Israel and her Arab neighbors. In the fall, Egypt and other Arab lands announced that they were ready to buy arms from the communists. Israel is now looking for additional weapons from the western nations.

A Middle East defense system was set up in November. The defense group includes Britain, Iraq, Iran, Turkey, and Pakistan.

**North Africa.** Morocco and other lands of French North Africa, which want more self-rule, have been rocked by fighting in 1955. In November, France brought back the popular Mohammed ben Youssef as sultan of Morocco in an effort to prevent further bloodshed there.

**West Germany.** West Germany became a sovereign nation linked with the NATO defense system last May. In September, West Germany and Russia agreed to exchange diplomatic representatives. The Germans are still waiting for a union of their divided land.

**President Eisenhower.** The President was struck by a heart attack on September 24. His condition gradually improved, and he left the hospital for his Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, farm in November. There, he has been



THESE GERMANS, among 105 who have just left Polish-controlled eastern territory, have a tearful reunion with relatives in West Germany. Another 150,000 are to be resettled in free West Germany under an agreement with the Polish communists. The Polish-run eastern area was formerly a part of German territory.

carrying out his Presidential duties.

**Britain.** Sir Winston Churchill, Britain's leader during the trying years of World War II, retired as Prime Minister in April. Anthony Eden has been serving in that post since then.

**Latin America.** Juan Peron, dictator of Argentina for 10 years, was ousted from office in September. Argentina is still recovering from the effects of Peron's rule.

Brazil elected Juscelino Kubitschek as president in October. Some Brazilian leaders have since been trying to keep Kubitschek from taking office on schedule next January.

**Science.** Uncle Sam announced in August that he will send into space a tiny object which is expected to circle the globe for a time.

**Medicine.** In April, it was announced that the anti-polio vaccine developed by Dr. Jonas Salk was successful in trial tests. After getting off to a slow start, millions of children were given injections of the serum.

**Sports.** The Brooklyn Dodgers defeated the New York Yankees in the World Series.

## UN Members

Some weeks ago, the western countries and Russia agreed on a plan to

break the deadlock over admitting new lands to the UN. We and our allies said we would not block UN membership for the Red lands of Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Mongolian People's Republic, and Romania. Moscow, in turn, agreed not to vote down the non-communist countries of Austria, Cambodia, Ceylon, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Spain, Laos, Libya, Nepal, and Portugal as members of the world body.

Just as an agreement on this plan seemed about to be reached in the UN, the Nationalist government of China, located on Formosa, said it would block UN membership for the Mongolian People's Republic—a one-time province of China. (Nationalist China, as well as the United States, Britain, France, and Russia, has the power in the UN to veto new members.)

Outer Mongolia has close ties with both Red China and Russia. The decision on admitting it and the other applicants to the UN may have been made by the time this paper reaches its readers.

## Tension in Berlin

As 1955 comes to a close, there is new tension in Berlin. The former German capital, since the end of World War II, has been completely surrounded by the territory of communist-controlled East Germany. But under agreements made by the United States, Britain, France, and Russia after the war, Berlin was to be occupied jointly by the western nations and Moscow. Since then, the Soviets have maintained a tight grip on East Berlin.

Now Russia claims that she has withdrawn her occupation forces from Berlin and the western nations should do the same. The East Germans, the Soviets argue, are now entitled to control the entire city.

Actually, the German communist leaders who take orders directly from Moscow continue to rule in East Berlin just as they do in all of East Germany. The Soviet move is obviously a Red trick to get western nations out of Berlin altogether, and to force us and our allies to recognize East Germany as a sovereign nation. We, together with the British and the French, refuse to be taken in by Russia's tactics, and have made it clear that we're not going to get out of Berlin.

## SPORTS

COLLEGE football will have its final fling this season in the various bowl games on New Year's Day. Since January 1 falls on Sunday, most of the major holiday gridiron encounters will take place on Monday, January 2.

In the Rose Bowl at Pasadena, California, Michigan State and the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) will clash. All-American quarterback Earl Morrall will direct the Michigan State attack. Among the UCLA standouts are line stars Hardiman Cureton and Rommie Loud.

Maryland and Oklahoma will meet in the Orange Bowl at Miami, Florida. Each of these powerful teams possesses an All-American lineman—Bo Bolinger for Oklahoma and Bob Pellegreni for Maryland.

In New Orleans' Sugar Bowl, Georgia Tech and Pittsburgh will come together. Texas Christian and Mississippi will fight it out in the Cotton Bowl at Dallas. In the Texas game, the fans will see in action Jim Swink of TCU, the season's highest scorer among major college players.

The Gator Bowl encounter will bring together Auburn and Vanderbilt. This game, played in Jacksonville, Florida, will take place on Saturday, December 31. Several other games, involving smaller colleges and service elevens,



COACHES for the Rose Bowl football tussle in Pasadena, California—Duffy Daugherty of Michigan State (left) and Red Sanders of UCLA.

will be played around the country during the holiday season.

Oldest of the big spectacles is the Rose Bowl game. It dates back to 1902, though 14 years then went by before the next holiday encounter. Since 1916, this postseason classic has been held each year. The Orange and Sugar Bowl games each started in 1935, and the Cotton Bowl clash began two years later. The first Gator Bowl encounter was in 1946.

Georgia Tech will be appearing in its 12th bowl game on January 2, matching the record held by Alabama and Southern California for the most bowl appearances. Neither of the latter two teams will be represented in holiday action this time.



FOR THE ORANGE BOWL game at Miami, Bud Wilkinson of Oklahoma (left) and Jim Tatum of Maryland will be the dueling coaches.

## THE LIGHTER SIDE

Definition: A paratrooper is a soldier who climbs down trees that he never climbed up.

\*  
"You say your son plays the piano like Rubinstein?"  
"Yes, he uses both hands."



... and in conclusion, just a few more words."

Teacher: When was the revival of learning?  
Student: Just before exams!

\*

Captain: I hope the next time I see you, you'll be a second lieutenant.

Private (flustered): Yes, sir. Thank you, sir. The same to you, sir.

\*

"What's your name?" the manager asked the boy applying for a job.

"Ford—Henry Ford," said the boy.

"Henry Ford, eh? That's a pretty well-known name."

"It should be," replied the boy. "I've been delivering groceries in this town for nearly five years."

\*

Customer: I'd like to get some alligator shoes.

Clerk: What size does your alligator wear?

\*

"What should I do to have soft, beautiful hands?"

"Nothing, madam. And do it all day."



UNDERWOOD &amp; UNDERWOOD

TO LIGHT CHICAGO, it takes as much electricity each day as can be made from 3,000,000 pounds of coal. Just 1 pound of uranium could do the job.

## Atom's Peacetime Uses Are Developing Rapidly

(Continued from page 1)

has appeared. Man has learned to develop power in atomic furnaces that "burn" uranium. Thus he has unlocked a storehouse containing fuel enough for many centuries to come.

Furthermore, various countries are trying to develop usable peacetime power from the same reaction that occurs in a hydrogen bomb. This is a tremendously difficult task; but, according to atomic experts, it could solve man's power problems "forever." The fuel needed for hydrogen-atomic electric plants could be obtained in practically unlimited quantities from ocean water.

Peacetime hydrogen power is a remote prospect. Nobody knows how long its development may take. Electricity from the uranium atom, on the other hand, is in use today.

This new power turns 2 great propellers which drive the *Nutilus*, our Navy's first atomic submarine. It reaches homes, farms, and factories in the vicinity of West Milton, New York, where a small atomic power plant is being run for experimental purposes. In Russia, too, there are some farms and factories using electricity from the atom. Russia has only a small plant in operation now, but she plans larger ones.

An atomic power plant is an extremely complicated structure, yet its operation isn't too difficult to understand. It is run by a *reactor*, a device in which atomic fuel—uranium or plutonium—"burns" under carefully controlled conditions, yielding tremendous amounts of heat. The same process takes place in a reactor as in a uranium or plutonium bomb; but it happens slowly—over a period

of months or years—instead of occurring as an explosion.

A reactor is useful in power production simply because of the heat it gives off. This heat can be used for making steam, just as can the fire in a coal furnace. The steam turns generators to produce electricity.

Some atomic plants, as we have noted, are already generating electric current. Within several years there will be others.

A large atom-powered electric plant is under construction at Shippingport, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, and is scheduled to help fill power require-

ments in the Pittsburgh area before the end of 1957. The atomic reactor for this plant is being constructed mostly at government expense and will be publicly owned, but the Duquesne Light Company, a private concern, will run the whole establishment.

Several other large atomic installations are expected to start generating electricity within the next 5 years. These are to be owned and financed by private companies and local public power groups. They include plants near New York City, Chicago, and Detroit. There will also be one in Nebraska.

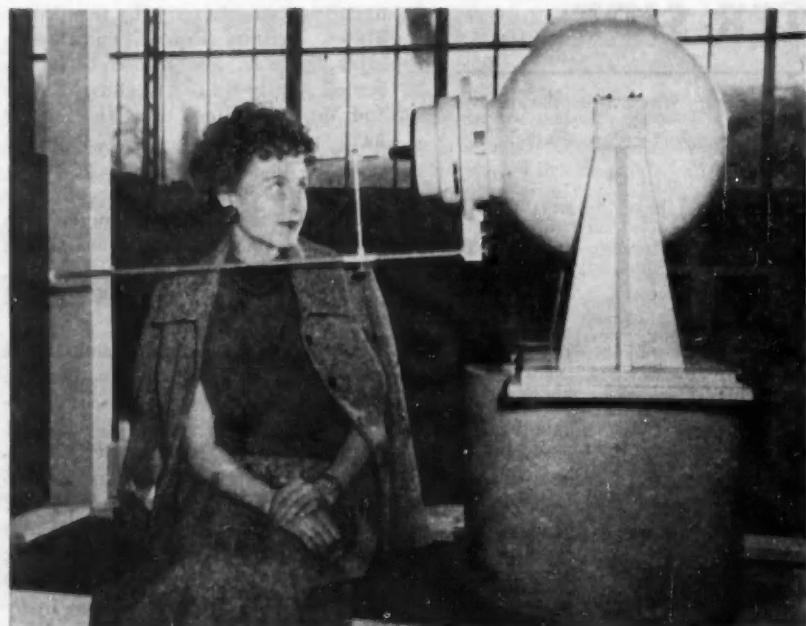
In the United States, it costs considerably more to produce electricity from atomic power than to obtain it from coal, petroleum, or other ordinary fuels. This situation, in general, is likely to continue for quite a number of years. The willingness of certain utility companies and other groups to begin work immediately on atom-powered electric plants comes from their belief that the atom will eventually rank among our main sources of energy. They want to get an early start in handling it.

Twenty years from now, the United States may be obtaining as much as 15 per cent of all its electricity from the atom. Certain other countries, not having so much coal and petroleum as does the United States, plan to move ahead on atomic power programs even more rapidly. A British spokesman says: "Early nuclear power development is essential for Britain . . . and we believe that by 1975 almost half our electricity will be from nuclear energy."

Though atomic power plants are expensive to build, they operate on extremely small quantities of fuel. According to the Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, "a pound of uranium metal, just slightly larger than a 1-inch cube, can produce the same amount of energy as 3 million pounds of coal."

Because they use such small quantities of uranium or other nuclear materials, atomic power plants should prove especially valuable in remote areas where the transportation of fuel is difficult and costly.

The atomic reactor—the furnace that "burns" uranium—serves many



THIS MACHINE, built by the Atomic Energy Authority of Britain, is used for treating cancer. More and more, the atom is helping to fight disease.

WIDE WORLD

purposes besides generating electric power. Certain reactors are used mainly to produce *radioisotopes*. These substances, which give off invisible rays, are made by treating ordinary materials—such as carbon or iodine—in the reactors.

In nature, radioisotopes are extremely rare. Our atomic laboratories create them in abundance, thus giving science one of its most important research tools since the invention of the microscope.

These ray-emitting isotopes are especially valuable because their presence can always be detected—and their movements traced—by instruments. Scientists can treat a farm crop with fertilizer containing radioactive isotopes, and then watch to see how quickly this fertilizer is absorbed into the various plants.

Ray-producing substances from our atomic laboratories can and do save lives, in many ways. For instance: There are types of cancer which absorb certain radioisotopes more rapidly than does healthy tissue. Therefore, when such isotopes are injected into the human body, they concentrate in the cancerous growth, and their magic rays signal its location so that the necessary treatment can be given early enough to be effective. In many cases, too, radioisotopes actually go to work on cancers and help destroy them.

Industrial firms use radioisotopes in many kinds of gauges and testing devices. Technicians can measure and control the thickness of metal sheeting by checking the amount of radiation that comes through it.

#### Engine Research

For testing purposes, piston rings that contain radioisotopes can be installed in an engine. As the rings gradually wear down, particles of radioactive matter will appear in the crankcase oil. By checking the amount of radiation in the oil, laboratory workers can determine the rate of engine wear.

For quite a number of years, the United States has been sending shipments of radioisotopes to hospitals and laboratories in foreign countries. But this is only one of the ways in which we try to help other nations use "atoms for peace."

Our government has sent libraries of non-secret atomic information to lands all around the globe. Scientists from 29 foreign countries have been brought to the United States to study atomic reactors; technicians from at least 27 nations have received training here on the use of radioisotopes; and doctors from 21 countries have come to see how American hospitals employ the atom against disease.

The United States has agreed to furnish quite a few countries with small quantities of uranium for use in experimental reactors, and to help these nations in various other ways. We have sold Switzerland a reactor that was set up and operated as part of the U. S. exhibit at Geneva.

In such ways, America seeks to show the world that she is doing everything she can to harness the atom for positive human benefit.

During the last 9 years, our country's atomic program has been handled by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission. This agency is responsible for the development of nuclear weapons, and it also performs many supervisory duties with respect to peacetime atomic enterprises. Lewis Strauss is chairman of the 5-man commission.



## Christmas Spirit

By Clay Coss

CHRISTMAS is, first of all, a day of religious significance and observance. It is also a time when the spirit of giving reaches its highest peak of the year.

Different people have different conceptions of what it means to give. Take the case of Harry. He likes to buy presents for his friends and relatives on Christmas and other special occasions. Yet he seldom feels the urge or the responsibility to contribute to charity.

Harry is aware of only two types of giving—money and material objects. When asked to take part in a church drive to collect food and toys for children facing a barren Christmas, he makes an excuse to avoid doing so.

This is typical of him. All during the year he is reluctant to give part of his time and services for the benefit of others. He does as little as possible in helping to keep his home in order, leaving the countless everyday jobs to be done by his mother and other members of the family. When his young sister needs coaching on her homework, he seldom comes to her aid. Nor does he contribute much to the family group in the way of conversation or cheerfulness. He is too absorbed with his own interests and problems.

At school, Harry likes to be with his own crowd, and gets along fairly well with his classmates. They notice, though, that he is never around when there's extra work to be done in connection with a school dance or some other activity.

Now let's meet Fred. He also enjoys buying presents for his friends and relatives at Christmas time and on their birthdays. But he has become aware of the fact that they are already better off than many other people, so he never spends all his spare money on them. As often as he can, he contributes to charitable causes.

Moreover, Fred does not confine his giving merely to money or material presents. He pitches in and helps out whenever he is needed—at home, in school, or anywhere else. He regularly joins in family activities, and does his part in creating a pleasant, cheerful atmosphere.

Fred's family and friends are always glad, of course, to get presents from him at Christmas and other times. But his daily gifts to them in the way of cooperation and helpfulness mean a great deal more than anything he can buy for them at the store. On the other hand, Harry's occasional presents can never make up for his failure to give more of himself day in and day out.

These two young men represent opposite extremes. The majority of people are not so self-centered as Harry nor as cooperative as Fred. But the latter youth symbolizes the ideal goal for us all—to make the Christmas spirit of giving a vital part of our daily lives rather than a brief display of generosity once or twice a year.

## Season of Good Cheer

### December Is Month of Religious Celebrations

THE Christmas season is here again. Since it is a time for celebrating the birth of Jesus, it always has a deep religious meaning. It is also the occasion for gay and varied celebrations around the world.

**Mexico**, for instance, has parties every night for a week before Christmas. The high light of each evening is the breaking of the *Pinata*—an earthen jar filled with candy, fruit, and other gifts. The jar is suspended from the ceiling and every guest is blindfolded and given three chances to break the Pinata with a stick. When the jar is shattered, everyone scrambles for the gifts.

In **Colombia**, people dress in masquerade costumes and sally forth on Christmas Eve. In some **Peruvian** towns, the main celebration comes on January 6 and is called the "Fiesta of the Three Kings."

In **Germany**, where the Christmas tree is used, the holiday is the occasion for family get-togethers. The children are taught to expect gifts from their Santa Claus if they are good. On Christmas Eve, all the family assembles before the tree. Everyone joins in singing carols, and then gifts are opened.

In **Sweden**, **Finland**, and **Norway**, the season starts in mid-December and lasts until mid-January. For a month, there is a round of visiting back and forth.

On Christmas Eve in many Scandinavian homes, the family and guests assemble in the dining room. Each person dips a piece of bread into a bowl of pork drippings and eats it to "bring luck." Then follows *lutefisk* (a flaky codfish) for the main course, and a rice pudding for dessert.

Early on Christmas morning, everyone goes to church. Often, in Sweden, the farm family glides over the crunchy snow in a horse-drawn sleigh; a flaming torch is used to light the way through the northern darkness. In Finland, young and old frequently travel to Christmas services by ski.

The Christmas Day feast is after church. It may be roast goose stuffed with prunes and apples; sometimes a turkey as in the United States; or, in northern Finland, it may even be roast reindeer.

**England** is the land that made the mistletoe and holly popular as holiday



Clay Coss

## A Career for Tomorrow -- Apprenticeships

**T**HREE are well over 100 occupations in which you can get your training through formal apprenticeship programs. As a rule, these programs are carried out under the supervision of employers and labor unions.

**Your qualifications**, if you decide to become an apprentice, will depend somewhat upon the particular vocation you choose. In most cases, you will need manual dexterity and mechanical aptitude. Generally, apprentices must be between 18 and 24 years of age.

In many communities, apprenticeship committees, made up of union and management representatives, must approve all applicants before they can become trainees. The committee looks into the applicant's record to see if he has the educational background needed to master the craft of his choice, and if he has the aptitude and ability necessary for success in the field.

**Your training program** will usually include working with experienced men on the job as well as classroom study. At first, you will do only routine tasks of your trade, but as you gain in experience you will perform more and more duties requiring skilled hands.

In the classroom, the apprentice usually studies mathematics, the sciences, and other subjects related to the trade of his choice. As a rule, from 4 to 10 hours a week are spent in the classroom over a period of several months. In some fields, advanced vocational courses are offered to persons who want to gain additional skills in their chosen occupation.

In most cases, you will have to serve from 3 to 4 years as an apprentice

before you can qualify as a skilled worker or journeyman. In a few trades, though, the training period may take up to 5 years. After you have successfully completed your training, you will receive a certificate showing that you are a qualified craftsman.

**Openings for apprentices** in most trades, according to the U. S. Depart-



AN APPRENTICE and teacher

ment of Labor, are expected to be plentiful for many years to come. Just now there is a particular shortage of trainees in technical work, and pay scales in this field are relatively high. This group includes draftsmen, airplane mechanics, tool and die makers, machinists, optical technicians, electricians, and many others.

Numerous apprenticeship opportunities can also be found in the building trades—carpentry, bricklaying, plumbing, plastering, and others. In

addition, you can become a baker, butcher, cosmetician, dry cleaner, furrier, glass worker, jeweler, photographer, printer, tailor, telephone worker, upholsterer, or a skilled worker in numerous other fields through on-the-job training programs.

**Your earnings**, as an apprentice, are likely to be about half that of a journeyman (one who has completed his training course). There are provisions for regular pay increases for each trainee until he becomes a skilled craftsman.

**Further information** about apprenticeship programs in your area can be obtained from nearby state employment offices, union officials, or employers in the trade you hope to enter.

Many states have special apprenticeship agencies which can give you information on openings, age requirements, and qualifications for trainees. These agencies are usually part of the state's Department of Labor and have offices in your state capital.

You can also get further information on trainee programs in many fields from the Bureau of Apprenticeship, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington 25, D. C.

### References

*Scientific American* for October 1955 contains series of articles on the Geneva "atoms for peace" conference.

"H-Atoms for Peace," by Senator Clinton P. Anderson, *Rotarian*, October 1955.

"The Crisis That Faces Us Will Not Wait," by Chester Bowles, *The New York Times Magazine*, November 27, 1955.

## Historical Background -- Bill of Rights

**S**OON after our government under the Constitution got under way in March 1789, Americans sought additional guarantees of liberty not included in the original basic set of laws. Within a few months, Congress approved 12 amendments to the Constitution dealing chiefly with individual freedoms. Of these, 10 were ratified by the states. The first 10 amendments went into effect as the Bill of Rights just 164 years ago next Thursday, December 15.

The Constitution, with amendments, is the foundation stone of our democratic government. The great document lays down the basic principles of liberty and freedom. Especially in the Bill of Rights, the Constitution guarantees individual liberties.

The 1st Amendment guarantees freedom of religion, of speech, and of the press. These are liberties for which men have struggled through the centuries, and are still struggling, to win and preserve.

The amendment means that each individual can go to the church of his choice and worship as he pleases—and he must allow others to worship as they please. It also means that people can freely criticize their government or praise it, and express their views on other matters both in speech and in writing.

Of course, the rights aren't unlimited. Despite guarantees of freedom of speech and press, a person can be jailed for advocating the forcible overthrow of our government. An individual can be brought before courts

for making untrue or damaging statements about other persons.

It is generally felt that such limitations on individual actions are needed to protect other citizens and the nation from possible harm. Nevertheless, so long as we don't violate laws, the Constitution gives us a maximum of freedom in expressing our opinions.

Other parts of the Bill of Rights also protect the individual against possible government abuse. The 4th Amendment, for instance, says that law officers may not go into a private home and search it at will. The officer must obtain a search warrant, or permit, from a court. So long as his actions do not interfere with the rights of others, a man may do as he pleases in his home.

The 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th Amendments concern justice in the courts. They outline rules to insure a man

accused of a crime the right to a fair trial by his fellow citizens.

The Constitution also contains other important guarantees. In the very first article of the document, for instance, we find the statement that "no bill of attainder or *ex post facto* law shall be passed."

This means that Congress cannot pass a measure (bill of attainder) declaring some man or woman to be guilty of a crime (guilt must be proved in the courts). Neither can it enact a law (*ex post facto*) which reaches back into the past and makes a crime of some specific action that was legal at the time it occurred.

The various guarantees of individual liberties, including the Bill of Rights, were aimed mainly against federal persecution. The Bill of Rights itself doesn't place any restrictions on state governments. But the 14th Amendment to the Constitution does include a provision which protects certain of our liberties against state action. This amendment, adopted in 1868, declares that no state shall "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law."

In addition, our state constitutions contain bills of rights which are, in most cases, similar to the federal document. Thus our personal freedoms cannot be violated either by the national government or by the states.

However, written guarantees of freedom alone are not enough to keep our country free. All of us must take an active interest in public affairs to help preserve our liberties.



FREEDOM of speech is guaranteed by the Constitution's Bill of Rights

## News Quiz

### Atoms for Peace

1. Briefly describe the "atoms for peace" conference that was held last summer at Geneva.

2. Why are many countries particularly interested in the prospect of obtaining electric power from atomic energy?

3. Are any atomic plants actually turning out electric current for practical use at the present time?

4. Briefly explain how an atom-driven electric plant works.

5. Name some places where large atomic power plants are likely to be built within the next several years.

6. What is a radioisotope?

7. List 3 or more uses for radioisotopes.

8. Tell of some ways in which the United States is helping other countries harness the atom for peacetime use.

### Discussion

Do you or do you not believe that world cooperation on peacetime atomic projects will tend to cause a general reduction of international tension and suspicion? Explain your position.

### Foreign Aid

1. How has the Soviet Union recently altered its foreign-aid programs?

2. Why is the region where the Russians are launching an economic offensive considered so important?

3. In what ways has the United States been helping nations in the Middle East and southern Asia?

4. Where, in the Middle East, has communist arms aid been offered?

5. Describe other Soviet offers which have been made in this area and in southern Asia.

6. Give the views of those who think we should embark on a bigger aid program in the Middle East and southern Asia.

7. What views are advanced by those who think that such a program is unwise?

### Discussion

1. What, if anything, do you think the United States should do about the arms aid which the communists are extending to Egypt and certain other lands? Explain your views.

2. Do you think we should increase our economic aid to the Middle East and southern Asia? Why or why not?

### Miscellaneous

1. Why has Jack Davis been in the news?

2. Who is Prince Rainier and where is his country?

3. Name the countries belonging to the METO defense system.

4. When is France scheduled to hold new elections?

5. Tell what the big 1955 news stories were concerning Soviet-western relations; the Middle East; Latin America.

6. What agreement was worked out between Russia and the western powers with respect to admitting new members to the UN?

### Pronunciations

Cambodia—käm-bö-dé-uh

Chiang Kai-shek—jyäng ki-shék

Faure—for

Georgi Malenkov—gē-awr'gi mä-lén'kōf

Juan Peron—hwän pē-rawn'

Juseelino Kubitschek—hōō'sé-lé'nō kōō-pét'shék

Laos—lā'öz

Mohammed ben Youssef—möō-häm'mad bén you-séf

Nikita Khrushchev—nyi-ké-tuh króosh-chawf

Nikolai Bulganin—në'kó-li bööl-gä'-nin

Pierre Mendes-France—pyér mén'dés-fráns'

Viet Nam—vè-èt' nám'